

**1. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) In combination a tube for storing micro-litre volumes and a multi-well plate having a bottom surface and ~~through bores~~ through bores having a substantially square cross section extending through the plate to said bottom surface, said through bores for receiving one said tube in a corresponding one of the through bores in said multi-well plate, the tube having first and second ends, the tube being open at the first one end and adapted at the second end to ~~we~~ engage the bottom surface of the multi-well plate, the tube comprising:

a body portion of substantially square cross section corresponding to the cross section of the through bores;

a shoulder portion near at said one end of the body portion and providing the open end of the tube, the cross section of the shoulder portion being greater than that of the body portion; and,

a deformable formation having a cross section larger than the cross section of the bores providing a connector portion at the second other end of the tube, said formation being deformable sized to fit through the through bore and to extend through the bottom surface to form a ~~for~~ snap fit engagement ~~in the through bore with said the~~ bottom surface of the multi-well plate.

2. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 1, further comprising a closure member disposed to close the open end.

3. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 2, wherein the closure member comprises a foil cap.

4. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 2, wherein the closure member is a self-sealing member.

5. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 4, wherein the self-sealing closure member is a split septum.

6. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 1, wherein the body and shoulder portions are formed separately from the snap fit connector portion.

7. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 6, wherein the snap fit connector portion has a dot code on it.

8. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 6, wherein the body and shoulder portions are formed from a translucent or transparent material.

9. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 8, further comprising a spigot at the interface between the body portion and the snap fit connector portion.

10. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 1, wherein the body portion and snap fit connector portion are co-moulded.

11. (Currently Amended) In combination a tube for storing fluid and a multi-well plate having a bottom surface and through bores having a substantially square cross section extending through the plate to said bottom surface, said through bores for receiving one said tube in a corresponding one of the through bores bores in said multi-well plate, the tube having first and second ends and being open at the first one-end and adapted to engage the bottom surface of the multi-well plate, the tube comprising:

a body portion of substantially square cross section corresponding to the cross section of the through bores;

a shoulder portion ~~near at said first one~~ end of the body portion and providing the open end of the tube, the cross section of the shoulder portion being greater than that of the body portion; and

a ~~deformable~~ flared connector portion at the ~~second closed end~~ of the tube ~~having a cross section greater than the through bores and being deformable-sized to fit through the through bore and to extend through the bottom surface to form a for snap fit engagement in the through bore with the bottom surface of the multi-well plate.~~

said flared connector portion having an identification code provided thereon.

12. (Previously Presented) A tube according to claim 11, wherein the connector and body portions are formed separately from different materials.